



April 2002

Rome honors student with science fair award

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, NY. — Steven Tinker, a junior at Poland Central School, was named recipient of the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate's Irv Gordy Award at the 24th annual Utica College Regional Science and Engineering Fair on March 9.

Tinker's selection to receive a plaque and offer of summer employment in the Information Directorate at the AFRL Rome Research Site was announced by Dr. Northrup Fowler, directorate chief scientist, during an awards banquet following the event. This was the third consecutive year that a Poland Central student has won the award.

The selection was made by a team of scientists and engineers from both the Information Directorate and Sensors Directorate at the Rome Research Site after reviewing Tinker's project, "Are They Worth It," in which he examined the flight distances of various priced golf balls.

Cynthia Gurecki, a senior at Rome Catholic Academy, was named as the runner-up for her project examining the insulation properties of different materials.

Special Merit Award Plaques were also presented for three other projects. The recipients were Ewa Szymanska, a sophomore at Proctor High School, Utica, for a project entitled "Sphingolipids/yeast-to-hyphal transition candida albican;" Carolyn Tewksbury, a junior at Clinton Central School for her research on "Tessera Rings on Venus;" and Ashton Miller, an eighth-grade student at John F. Kennedy Middle School, Utica, for his project entitled, "Catalase Kinetics."

The AFRL judges also awarded Scientific Merit Certificates to a number of other students and projects at the science fair. They were:

SENIOR DIVISION (Grades 9-12)

Steven Tinker, junior, Poland Central School, "Are They Worth It?"

Cynthia Gurecki, senior, Rome Catholic High School, "Where Are You Losing It?"

Jessica Johnson, junior, Poland Central School, "Can Everyone See Three Dimensions?"

Kristen Vescera, junior, Poland Central School, "Female Self Esteem and Divorce in the Family."

Alicia Irwin, 9th grade, Poland Central School, "Testing Bacterial Content of Milk"

Ewa Szymanska, 10th grade, Proctor High School, "Sphingolipids/Yeast-to-hyphal Transition Candida Albican."

Danielle Renodin, junior, Poland Central School, "Bearing Friction."

Carolyn Tewksbury, junior, Clinton Central School, "Tessera Rings on Venus."

JUNIOR DIVISION (Grades 7-8)

Justyn Persson, 7th grade, Rome Catholic High, "Using Wind to Create Electricity."

Hannah Kinzelmann & Michael Tichenor, 8th grade, Clinton Middle School, "Effect of Music on Child's Memory."

Catherine Crossway and Kayla Garrett, 8th grade, Rome Catholic High, "Phantom Pain."

Maria LaGasse, 8th grade, Rome Catholic High, "Battle of the Sexes: Who Has the Better Memory?"

Andrea Uvanni, 7th grade, Strough Junior High, Rome, "Probability of Genetics."

Arianna Valentini, 7th grade, John F. Kennedy Middle School, "How Well Do Plants Grow in Different Mediums"

Stephanie Leonard, 8th grade, Clinton Middle School, "Short-Term Memory Recall."

Halee Rockwell, 7th grade, Rome Catholic High, "Dangers of Tongue Piercing."

Patrick Davis, 7th grade, Donovan Middle School, Utica, "Electromagnetic Fields on Plants."

Paul Kelly 7th grade, Kennedy Middle School, "Five Frozen Fluids."

Richard Ferrone, 7th grade, John F. Kennedy Middle School, "Which Water Is Best to Drink?"

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Alan Jarvis, 7th grade, Staley Junior High, Rome, "Tornado Tunnel."

Gabriella Malek, 7th grade, John F. Kennedy Middle School, "What Lips Last Longer?"

Gordon Jeffrey, 8th grade, Strough Junior High, "Electrified Gardens."

Samantha Loreto, 7th grade, Rome Catholic High, "Stalactites and Stalagmites."

Fred Bruzzese, 7th grade, John F. Kennedy Middle School, "Storage Mass."

Ashton Miller, 8th grade, John F. Kennedy Middle School, "Catalase Kinetics."

Joshua Szarek, 7th grade, Poland Central School, "What Airplane Wing Flies the Best?" @